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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

14 May 1962

EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL GROUP (AUGMENTED)

From: Brig. Gen. Lansdale *Ed*

Subject: Cuban Patrol Incident, Operation Mongoose

For your information.

Habana radio has announced that a Cuban Navy patrol boat was attacked by "pirates" late Saturday night, with Cuban casualties resulting. The attack took place between Habana and Matausse, off the north coast of Cuba.

CIA has informed me that this was an accidental intercept by a Cuban patrol, during the scheduled delivery of an agent team. Our craft took defensive action, crippled the Cuban patrol, and retired. Our craft was not hit. The team returned to Florida, and is in isolation from press and public.

Intelligence findings are that this encounter was completely accidental. This is assessed as a routine incident in operations, which was handled very competently. The Castro propaganda reaction has produced a temporary rise in the noise level but serious increase in operational risk is not indicated.

"Eyes Only" copies to

1. General Taylor
2. Mr. Johnson
3. Mr. Gilpatric
4. Mr. McCone
5. Mr. Kennedy
6. General Lemnitzer
7. Chief of Operations

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